

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hugh Sharkey and Gary S. Fanton  
Serial No. : 08/714,987  
Filed : September 17, 1996  
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLED CONTRACTION OF SOFT TISSUE

Art Unit : 3735  
Examiner : David M. Shay  
Conf. No. : 4099

**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants request consideration of the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(ii), only copies of foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. Copies of any listed U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications can be provided upon request.

This statement is being made with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination. No fee is required. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 11, 2007

  
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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-014001	Application No. 08/714,987
<b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Hugh Sharkey and Gary S. Fanton	
		Filing Date September 17, 1996	Group Art Unit 3735
(37 CFR §1.96(b))			

## U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AP						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

## Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

## Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AQ	Trimedyn, The Less Invasive Laser Advantage, Omni Spinal Introduction System.
	AR	Attachment I: Competitive Literature on Generators with Bipolar Capabilities, IME Co., Ltd., pp.60-86.
	AS	Attachment II: Competitive Literature on Bipolar Forceps and Footswitch Controls, IME Co., Ltd., pp. 87-104.
	AT	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	